

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2 through 15. Please add new claims 16, 17, and 18.

1. (Original) A biologically pure bacterial strain for bioremediation of petroleum hydrocarbons comprising an isolate selected from the group consisting of ATCC accession numbers PTA-5570, PTA-5571, PTA-5572, PTA-5573, PTA-5574, PTA-5575, PTA-5576, PTA-5577, PTA-5578, PTA-5579, PTA-5580, PTA-5581 and combinations thereof.
- 2-15 (Canceled)
16. (New) A biologically pure culture of one or more organisms, and mutants thereof, having all of the identifying characteristics of said microorganisms, wherein said microorganisms are capable of degrading petroleum hydrocarbons, said microorganisms being selected from the group consisting of ATCC accession numbers PTA-5570, PTA-5571, PTA-5572, PTA-5573, PTA-5574, PTA-5575, PTA-5576, PTA-5577, PTA-5578, PTA-5579, PTA-5580, PTA-5581 and mixtures thereof.
17. (New) A biologically pure culture of one or more microorganisms, and mutants thereof, having all of the identifying characteristics of said microorganisms wherein said microorganisms are capable of degrading petroleum hydrocarbons, said microorganisms being selected from the group consisting of *Alcaligenes-piechaudii* (ATCC PTA-5580), *Ralstonia-pickettii* (ATCC PTA-5579), *Pseudomonas putida* (ATCC PTA-5581), and mixtures thereof, said microorganisms having the additional characteristic of producing a surfactant.
18. (New) A biologically pure culture according to claim 16 wherein said hydrocarbon is a polyaromatic hydrocarbon.